

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Improvements to heating process of steel strips in vertical furnaces.

the specification of which (check one)

☐ is attached hereto. ☐ was filed on _____, as United States Patent Application Serial No. or PCT International Application Number _____, and was amended on _____ (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56(a).

Prior Foreign Application(s): I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

01 01331	FRANCE	31 January 2001	Priority Claimed
(Application No.)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Application No.)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
(Application No.)	(Country)	(Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No. _____

Filing Date _____

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(U.S. Application Serial No.)	(U.S. Filing Date)	(Status--patented, pending, abandoned)
(U.S. Application Serial No.)	(U.S. Filing Date)	(Status--patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint the following registered practitioners Rudolf E. Hutz, Reg. No. 22,397; John D. Fairchild, Reg. No. 19,756; Harold Pezzner, Reg. No. 22,112; Richard M. Beck, Reg. No. 22,580; Paul E. Crawford, Reg. No. 24,397; Burton A. Amernick, Reg. No. 24,852; Morris Liss, Reg. No. 24,510; George R. Petit, Reg. No. 27,369; Patricia Smink Rogowski, Reg. No. 33,791; Robert G. McMorrow, Jr., Reg. No. 30,962; Ashley I. Pezzner, Reg. No. 35,646; William E. McShane, Reg. No. 32,707; Mary W. Bourke, Reg. No. 30,982; Gerard M. O'Rourke, Reg. No. 39,794; James M. Olsen, Reg. No. 40,408; Francis DiGiovanni, Reg. No. 37,310; Eric J. Evain, Reg. No. 42,517; William E. Curry, Reg. No. 43,572; David W. Ward, Reg. No. 45,198; Daniel C. Mulveny, Reg. No. 45,897; John A. Evans, (Agent) 44,100; and Elliot C. Mendelson (Agent), Reg. No. 42,878, with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Send Correspondence and Direct Telephone Calls to:

Morris Liss
(202) 331-7111

Morris Liss
Pollock, Vande Sande & Amernick, R.L.L.P.
P.O. Box 19088
Washington, D.C. 20036-3425 U.S.A.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or first inventor: **François MIGNARD**

Inventor's Signature _____

Residence Address **FRANCE**

Citizenship **FRANCE**

Post Office Address **17, rue du Parc - 91540 MENNECY (France)**

☐ See next page for additional inventors

DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

Page Two

Full name of second joint inventor (if any): Patrick DUBOIS

Inventor's Signature [Signature] Date January 15, 2004

Residence Address FRANCE

Citizenship FRANCE

Post Office Address 7, rue de Guigneville - 77390 ANDREZEL (France)

Full name of third joint inventor (if any): _____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence Address _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

Full name of fourth joint inventor (if any): _____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence Address _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

Full name of fifth joint inventor (if any): _____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence Address _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

Full name of sixth joint inventor (if any): _____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence Address _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

Full name of seventh joint inventor (if any): _____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence Address _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

Full name of eighth joint inventor (if any): _____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence Address _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____

Full name of ninth joint inventor (if any): _____

Inventor's Signature _____ Date _____

Residence Address _____

Citizenship _____

Post Office Address _____